

DECLARATION FOR UTILITY OR DESIGN PATENT APPLICATION (37 CFR 1.63)

As a below named inventor, we hereby declare that:

Our residence, post office address, and citizenship are as stated below next to our names.

We believe we are the original, or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

PROCESS FOR PRE-TREATING CELLULOSIC FIBERS AND CELLULOSIC FIBER BLENDS

the specification of which

☒ is attached hereto

OR

☐ was filed on _____, United States Application Number _____ or PCT International Application Number _____ and was amended on _____ (if applicable).

We hereby state that we have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to above.

We acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56.

We hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or 365(a) of any PCT International application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or of any PCT International application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

| Prior Foreign Application Number(s) | Country | Foreign Filing Date (MM/DD/YY) | Priority Claimed |
|-------------------------------------|---------|--------------------------------|--|
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |

We hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.


| Application Number(s) | Filing Date (MM/DD/YY) | <input type="checkbox"/> Additional provisional application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet attached hereto. |
|-----------------------|------------------------|---|
| (unknown) | December 21, 1999 | |

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. 120 of any United States application(s), or 365(c) of any PCT International application designating the United States of America, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT International application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

| | | |
|---|----------------------------------|---|
| U.S. Parent Application or PCT Parent Number | Parent Filing Date (MM/DD/YY) | Parent Patent Number (if applicable) |
| | | |


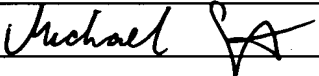
As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following registered practitioner(s), respectively and individually, as my attorneys and/or agents, with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office:

CUSTOMER NUMBER 25,255


25255
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

| | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Direct all correspondence to: | CLARIANT CORPORATION Industrial Property Department 4331 Chesapeake Drive Charlotte, North Carolina 28216 Telephone: 704/395-6712 Facsimile: 704/395-6727 |
|-------------------------------|--|

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| Sole or First Inventor: | Angelo RIZZARDI | |
| Inventor's Signature: |  | |
| Citizenship: | American | Date: <i>December 13, 2000</i> |
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| Inventor's Signature: |  | |
| Citizenship: | German | Date: <i>December 13, 2000</i> |
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